A SHORT VINDICATION OF *Phil. Scot's* Defence OF THE *Scots* Abdicating *DARIEN*:

BEING

In Answer to the Challenge of the Author of the Defence of that Settlement, to prove the *Spaniſh* Title to *Darien*, by Inheritance, Marriage, Donation, Purchaſe, Reverſion, Surrender, or Conqueſt.

WITH A

Prefatory Reply, to the Falſe and Scurrilous Aſperſions, of the New Author of, *The Juſt and Modeſt Vindication*, &c. And ſome Animadverſions on the material Part of it, relating to the Title of *DARIEN*.

Non qui multa ſed qui multum dixit bene dicit.

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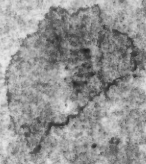

THE PREFACE.

THE most genuine and best meant Designs of Man, being lyable not only to Misconstruction, but Reproach, 'tis the less surprising to meet with either of these in the present Case, considering the small Proportion I bear to a numerous Party, who are so far dipt in a Project, that notwithstanding a great many of them by this Time begin to perceive the Errour they have been led unto, yet they will not disintangle themselves; and if any Person should take upon him to unblind, them he must expect to have his Throat cut.

As my first Attempt in this Nature is not only censur'd Bold, but Impudent, by the Managers of the Caledonian Project, so it has been attended with Menaces enough, that I should not eat my Christmas Dinner. The friendly Advices I have received of my sudden Fate don't in the least make my Pen stagger from Vindicating what I have already offer'd to show the Impracticability of that Project, for which altho' I am at present basely censur'd, by a resolute and headstrong Party, yet, I doubt not of receiving the Approbation of the moderate and

judicious Part of that Nation before the Jubilee be over, my Theme being both just, and well design'd to the Proprietors of that Stock.

I could have wish'd that this gentle Author, who Essects so much Modesty, Sense, and good Manners, had stood by his Text, and had taken more convincing Ways of confuting what I have written on the Darien *Subject: For, however necessary he thinks it for his Argument to treat it and me with Reproach, yet he will gain thereby but few Proselytes to his Opinion: And if he had employ'd his Mathematical Head in disproving what I have offer'd in Defence of the Abdication, with some of those* Euclid *Demonstrations, wherewith he would let us know that he abounds, his slanderous and personal Reflections might be the better credited: But as he has advanc'd nothing, either to justifie the Conduct of the Directors of that Company, or to disprove one Syllable of what's offer'd against the* Darien *Project, except the Instance of Mr.* Wafer, *which he would have the World take for granted to be a Lye, and make use of that to overthrow my Faith; I hope that (if the whole Discourse does not carry Demonstration enough along with it) it may stand firm till such Time as it is repeal'd by Dint of Argument: And as for this Passage relating to Mr.* Wafer, *I shall justifie it before I proceed any further.*

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In the first Place, I desire that it may be taken as a Preliminary, that if Mr. Wafer *had met with so egregious a Romance, and so nearly relating to him publickly in Print, he ought in Justice, both to the Company and himself, to have instantly detected it's Falshood. But altho' he lives very near the* Royal-Exchange, *and had the Perusal of the same Book the first Day it was published (which is above Two Months ago) yet he hath been so far from offering to disprove it, that he hath since expresst himself to Persons of unquestionable Credit, that if he had known of my Intention, or had not thereby been anticipated from Publishing his own Sentiments, he would have said a great Deal more on that Subject.*

I must needs own, that he was ignorant of my Design of Publishing that, or any Thing else; but I must tell you, that about the same Time, he thought to have oblig'd the Company to recompense him for his Disappointment, or to have expos'd them to the Publick: And to confirm what I herein assert, 'tis very well known to a great many in Town, that about Four Months agoe, he presented a Memorial to a certain Scots *Person of Quality, containing every Syllable of what I have wrote, as likewise some more which I design'dly left out, because it particularix'd some Persons whom I had no Inclination to mention.*

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He was kept in Hopes of some Gratification, and I believe he might have been easily compounded with, but what I have wrote from his own Mouth and Memorial, I am so far from distrusting he will retract, or can be brib'd to deny, that I firmly believe he gave no Occasion to this Author, to make use of his Name to impose thus upon the World: And to confirm me the more in this Belief, it is not above Three Days since he came to my Lodging to acquaint me, that a Book was newly publish'd in Vindication of the Darien *Settlement, but he had not seen it; on which I ask'd, If any Persons had been with him from the Company, to oblige him to pass from what he had said and wrote? to which he answer'd,* No. *I show'd him the Book and Passage in it, relating to him, which having perus'd, he told me, That he was so far from passing from it, that he wonder'd how that Author should be so confident, as to rely on what he should answer.*

If this is not enough to justifie that Passage relating to Wafer, *by which our Author submits the Truth of the Whole to be try'd, I shall prove it,* Viva voce, *if need be; and shall say no more to it here, but only show you the Evasion which our Author makes use of in the 18th Page of his Preface, to clear his Party of that Imputation, To wit;* Nor can any without the Renouncing of common Sense, believe that the Gentlemen employ'd by the Com-

Company to confer and transact with Mr. *Wafer*, could be guilty of such Weakness and Folly, as to reveal and detect to him their Design upon *Darien*, in that the whole Success of that Undertaking depended entirely upon it's being kept and preserv'd a Secret. *If our learned Author would not impute it to brutal Ignorance, to differ in any Point from his Conception of Things, I might be allow'd to detect the Weakness or Innocence of this strong Argument; and would ask him, if at the Conference between the same Gentlemen and Mr.* Wafer, *at* Pontaks's, *the Subject was not* Darien? *I would likewise know whether the Collection of Guineas for him at that Meeting was not to keep him from Disposing of himself till they acquainted the Company with his Qualifications to serve them? As also, whether that Article in the Contract, whereby he receiv'd* 20 *Guineas, was not towards Stopping the Publishing of this Book for the Space of a Month, till the Company and he should come to Terms for Suppressing it altogether? 'Tis evident enough, that the Substance of that Book or Journal relates to nothing but* Darien; *as likewise, that* Wafer's *Talent as to Projects lay no where else: Now how far this Mathematical Argument of our Author will demonstrate* Wafer *to be a Fool, and me a Lyar, I submit it to Judgment. In the mean Time, it may be worthy of Remark,*

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that this Faction is not calculated for London *or* England, *but for a Country where* Wafer *is not to be seen and ſpoken with.*

Believing what is already ſaid on this Head to be ſufficient to reinſtate me in my Credit, I ſhall return to the firſt Part of this Preface, where he throws ſome Foul-mouth'd Aſperſions, not only on me, but likewiſe on his Majeſty's Miniſters of State; how correſpondent that Style is with the Title of his Book, let any Perſon judge, or if it is not fitter to be bound up with the Volumes of the Scotch *Presbyterian Eloquence, than left ſingle for the more civil Caſuiſts of this Age to peruſe.*

I ſhall not take upon me to ſay any thing relating to that Miniſter, whom he uſes ſo ſcurrilouſly, believing, that if he thinks it worth his While, he will do himſelf Right; yet I muſt take upon me to remark, that through the whole Strain of his Calumnies and Invectives, it is not at him alone he points his Thunder, but through the Sides of that State-Officer he wounds and bullies the Reſt (be of what Office or Quality they will) who will preſume to act directly or indirectly againſt the Darien *Project; and if a Man dares be ſo bold, as to whiſper his Thoughts, either publickly or privately, in Oppoſition to it, he muſt be mouth'd at, and repreſented as an Enemy to one of His Majeſty's Kingdoms, and is not fit for the Office he bears; as alſo, that he muſt remember*

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the Fate of Archbiſhop Laud, *and the Earl of* Strafford. *So God ha' Mercy Old* England.

As to that Part of his ſlandrous Story, wherein he inſinuates, that large Rewards have been beſtow'd on me by that Miniſter; I have Reaſon to believe, that the Perſons, whom he calls Friends, of thoſe State-Councellors, *are only feign'd by himſelf, to make the Story paſs the more current: As for my ſelf, I muſt needs own, that when I came from* Scotland, *about Eighteen Years ago, I brought but little Money with me, and what I have purchaſed ſince, has been in Serving the King: But that I either receiv'd or expected any mercinary Reward (as our Author impudently and maliciouſly inſinuates) I muſt tell him, or whoever elſe ſays ſo, that it is a Lye. To reproach me the more, he gives out, that I was expell'd the Navy for Crimes and Miſdemeanours, which is likewiſe falſe, for I was neither expell'd or ever tainted with any baſe or mean Action: The Reaſon of my Leaving that Service, is ſufficiently known to be on the Score of a Rancounter I had at* Portſmouth, *with the Commander of the Ship, where I ſerv'd. 'Tis true, the Cloud I was under for ſome Months afterwards (being unwilling to ſtand the Teſt of a Court Martial) induc'd me the eaſier to enter into that Companies Service, under the Notion of going to the* Eaſt-Indies, *and which I was made tacitely to believe for a Twelve-month afterwards;*

but by what has happen'd it was jumping out of the Frying-pan into the Fire: For after I had ſerv'd them in more Stations than one (with their Approbation) for the Space of 26 Months, and proceeded in their private Expedition with Five or Six Months Proviſions to a Country where nothing was to be ſeen but Death, Ruine, and the Spaniſh *Mines, I having got my Belly full of the Project, obtain'd my Diſcharge with an ample Certificate from the Council of the Colony: And altho' I was Shipwrack'd the very next Day, coming out of their Harbour's Mouth, had my Servant drown'd, eſcaping very narrowly my ſelf, beſides the Loſs of what I had; when I came to* England, *I was oblig'd to go to Law with them in* Doctors-Commons *for my Wages, where it coſt me more than I recover'd.*

As for the Meanneſs of my Office and Parts, wherewith our Author upbraids me, I ſhall not offer much on that Head, that ſignifying but little to the Subject in debate; the leſs Force the Weakneſs or Meanneſs of my Argument carries with it, it is the eaſier evinc'd, but as there's nothing appears, but ſlandrous Aſperſions to confute it, it will bear but little Weight with the judicious Part of Mankind. The Obſcurity of our Author, indeed, ſhades him from ſuitable Returns to his Compliments; however, I muſt take the Liberty to remark that, notwithſtanding he would make

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us believe he is no Plagiary; *yet the whole Syſtem of his Diſcourſe is eaſily diſcover'd to be Mr.* F—rs, *almoſt Paragraph by Paragraph, only dreſs'd up with a long-winded Præmium, a Chain of innumerable Tautologies, Parentheſes, and crabbed Abſtruſities, deſignedly calculated to Crambo the Reader out of his Senſes; beſides, a few French and Civilian Authorities, the Latter of which he might have kept in his Pocket, 'till once the Spaniſh Title to* Darien *had been fairly confuted: He has, indeed, left out ſome of the ſowreſt Parts of the Original Book, which reflected on his Majeſty, and the Engliſh Government, but he retains ſuch Portions of the ſame Venome, that notwithſtanding his affected Mannerlineſs, and Decency, he can't forbear ſpurtiug it out in ſeveral Places, nor from pointing it plainly and diametrically at the Councils, and Government of* England. *The Threats, indeed, are Airy, and ſo the leſs worthy of Regard; yet they may be look'd upon from one who ſits under the Noſe of the ſame Government, to be fraught-ed with much more Preſumption, than what's offer'd in the Defence of the* Scots *Abdicating* Darien, *to a Company of Merchants.*

But that I may vindicate that Defence from any National Aſperſions, which thoſe Gentlemen, who are bigotted to the Darien *Project, load it with, and who would ſqueeze that ſowre Part from the Managers of the Company, to*

whom it was plainly directed, and apply it to the Body of the Nation; to clear my ſelf of this general Imputation, I muſt refer the Reader to the 5th Page of its Epiſtle Dedicatory, *where I particularly caution it to prevent ſiniſtrous Interpretations. In the next place, I muſt detect the baſe and unfair* Methods, *which the Author of,* The juſt and modeſt Vindication *uſeth to wreſt, and pervert what I have ſaid in the Paragraphs, which he cites in his* Preface to the Reader. *The firſt is Page* 2. *where he tells you, That I have* aſſum'd the Impudence of aſſerting, that the Motives on which the Proclamations were emitted in the Engliſh *Weſt-India* Plantations, forbidding the Supplying, Relieving, and Aſſiſting the *Scots* at *Darien*, or in any Parts of *America*, where they ſhould ſettle, was becauſe the Government of *England* would not be acceſſary to an Act, which the World might judge to be Felonious. *Now, that the Reader may judge of this mannerly Gentleman's Integrity, I ſhall rehearſe the Paragraph as I wrote it, where there's neither any mention made of the* Engliſh *Proclamations, much leſs of the* Engliſh *Government's forbidding, to aſſiſt or ſupply the* Scots *in any Part of* America, *to wit,* Defence of the *Scots* Abdicating, *Pag.* 4. *Epiſt. Ded.* If you were thus perſwaded (*directing it to the* Managers *of the Company*) to run headlong

long on a blind Project, at which the Trading Part of the World ſtands amaz'd; the *India* Companies of *England* and *Holland* laugh at in their Sleeve, and the reſt of Mankind admire, that People in their right Senſes ſhould be guilty of, and if the ſame ſhould miſcarry by your own ill Management (to ſay no worſe on't) 'tis not fair you ſhould ſnarle at your Neighbours, who have no other Hand in your Misfortune, than that they would not be acceſſary to any Act which the World might judge Felonious, and wherein they could not join without engaging themſelves in an unreaſonable War, and in the End to aſſiſt you with Weapons to break their own Heads. *But that I may likewiſe rehearſe the Paragraph, where I had Occaſion to mention the* Engliſh *Proclamation or Prohibition. See the Page* 156. Laying aſide the *Spaniſh* Complaint, and admit the *Scotch* Company to have a Legal Title to their Settlement, was it not reaſonable, that the Goverment of *England* having met with the clandeſtine Declarations, which the *Scotch* Collony had ſpread all over the *Weſt-Indies*, inviting them over to *Darien*, ſhould take ſuitable Meaſures to prevent the ill Conſequences of the ſame, and retain their own Subjects: The Declarations are notorious, and muſt be penn'd by ſome Perſon belonging

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ing to the Company or Collony, and I preſume the Oppoſite Proclamation or Prohibition was penn'd by ſome *Engliſh* Man, who had ſome Intereſt in the *Engliſh* Plantations. *Now whether our Author uſhers in his juſt and modeſt Vindication, fairly and honeſtly, I ſubmit it to Judgment, or whether I mayn't juſtly retort upon himſelf, again, that ſlanderous Aſperſion relating to* Wafer, *in the* 18*th Page of his Preface*, viz. That through the Fellows appearing a Lyar, or uncandid in one Caſe, his Teſtimony ſhould not be receiv'd in any other whatſoever.

Nay in the ſame Breath, he backs it with ſuch another Perverſion (altho' not quite ſo malicious) and vents his Choller thus, citing the 7*th Page of the Epiſtle Dedicatory*, That I ſhould have taken the Boldneſs to add, in Terms that are moſt ſlanderous, as well as defamatory, that their Attempt of Planting on the *Iſthmus*, was their Settling a Colony in another Man's Dominions, unleſs by Virtue of their Presbyterian Tenet (of Dominions being founded in Grace) the *Scots*, who are the Preſumptive Elect, pretend a Divine Right to the Goods of the Wicked, and ſo take upon them to cloath the Seven Councellors of their Colony, with ſuch another Commiſſion as God gave the *Hebrews*, when they departed out of *Egypt*. *The Injuſtice which this Gentle-*

Gentleman does me, and the little Service he does his Cauſe, is very apparent; for I don't ſay, that the Scots *are the Preſumptive Elect (there being no ſuch Word mention'd) nor do I think it. Some Species of* Men, *indeed, in that Nation are conceited with that Opinion of themſelves, but there are ſeveral Perſons of Worth who will not aſſume that Title; neither do I direct that Dedication to them, but to Directors of the Scots* African *Company, of whom that Sept, who were the Occaſion of the chief* Miſmanagement, *are of this vain Kidney. As for* Harris, *whom our Author cites irreverently in the ſame Paragraph, I know him, but* D——l *is ſuch a Stranger to me, that I proteſt, there's none of my Acquaintance I can think of, whoſe Name begins and ends with thoſe Letters: But that muſt be plac'd to the other falſe Notions he runs on.*

Our Author thinks fit to cite only one Paſſage more of, The Defence of the *Scots* Abd. *pag.* 16. That juſt as the *Scots* Companies Books were open'd at *Amſterdam*, for receiving Subſcriptions to their Capital Stock, the Dutch *Eaſt* and *Weſt-India* Companies run open-mouth'd to the Lords of *Amſterdam*, ſhewing what was hatching by the *Scotch* Commiſſioners in their City, to ruine the Trade of the *United Provinces*. *The Gentleman thinks fit to own this to be true, deſigning to make Two neceſſary Uſes of it;*

it; the first is calculated for the Proprietors of the Scots African *Stock, as the Printing and Reprinting of the House of Commons Address to the King, of the Year* 1696, *at* Edinburgh, *was to insinuate the Vastness of the Project, and the Riches that were to be acquir'd by it, when such Foreign People oppos'd it: But that none of those may be deceiv'd by the Use he makes of that Paragraph, I must acquaint them in short, that if those* Dutch *Men had known the* Scotch *Companies Project to be on* Darien, *I dare say, they would not have taken such Measures to oppose them. The other Use our Author makes of this is, to sow some malicious Seeds of distrust among the People of* England, *and to calumniate His Majesty and his Councils, as if those were altogether calculated for a* Dutch *Interest. This Mathematical Politician, both here and every where else, when he has occasion to discharge his Gall on His Majesty and his Government, shreuds his Aspersions under a Religious and Well-meaning Cant, as if they were the Apprehensions and Designs of other People, and not of himself.*

This modest Author excuses himself from replying any Thing to the Argument-part of what has been offer'd against the Darien *Project, it being fully obviated and anticipated by this Book of his, which he says was antecedently written on that Subject: How far this is true, let any Man (who will have the Patience, or*

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punish himself, to read it) determine. 'Tis pity that it should have lain so long in Embrio, *and not seen the Light, till now most People are confirm'd of an adverse Opinion of the Project, not because it is like to enrich that Company and Nation, but because there's a great Deal of good Money squander'd away, which might have been better employ'd. Neither can that Judicious part of Mankind (to whom he recommends his Book) find any more in it of Substance than what is already, and less barbarously express'd in the Original, which this eternal Parenthesser has only Paraphras'd upon, with a Pedantick Accumulation of Synonimous Words and Repetitions, and has no ways mended it; unless he thinks it a strong Way of Arguing, to brawl a Man out of his Reason; which, in my Opinion, suits better with* Billingsgate, *than the* Aula.

But to proceed on the Vindication of my defending the Scots *Abdicating* Darien, *I must tell you, that the Motives which push'd me on to it, were quite different from those of this modest Author, or some more particular Persons, who, besides the Noise themselves make, may rather encourage than endeavour to crush the Clamours of others, it being a Topick warranted by Precedents, whereby Money has been got, and may still, if it be well manag'd, altho' perhaps, little of it may come to the Share of the Subscribers.*

Any impartial or unprejudic'd Reader, who hath perus'd that Defence, may see that it runs in three different Strains; the first is in Vindicating the Justice of His Majesty and Councils from the oblique and expres's Calumnies, in the Defence of the Scots *Settlemen at* Darien, *which my Duty oblig'd me to as a Subject, and so long a Servant of His Majesty and the* English *Nation, that what Bread I have eat these* 18 *Years has been theirs, save my* Caledonian *Allowance, during that Service, and my Trip to* Darien. *And if in that Part of it, which points at the Errata's of that Author (where he sets up his Royal Beacons for King* William *to mind, and be aware of) I have offer'd any thing inconsistent with the Celebrated Histories of* Scotland, *or have not worded it with more Advantage to the* Scots *than the* English *Historians relate it, I leave it to Judgment.*

The second Strain of it runs on the Procedure of the Company, their Mismanagement of that great Act they are invested with, as also of the Money of the several Proprietors wherewith they were intrusted, and of their sending so many worthy Gentlemen, and other brave Fellows on so dark an Errand, unprovided of either the Necessaries for their Subsistance, or Credit to purchase any; and of neglecting them in so Foreign and desolate a Country. I have said no more in this than what is notorious, and if I have deviated in any particular, those

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Gentlemen who left the Collony at first, and the rest who have quitted it since, are at liberty to confute me. As for my own Share, I lost what I had in their Service; when I came home, I was oblig'd to sue them for what was my due; and when at the Request of some Persons of Quality, I gave a candid Relation of the Collony, their Affairs, and the Improbability of their holding of it; the Managers in Scotland *not only us'd Means to stifle my Credit, but baffl'd and misrepresented me here, and when any adverse News came at any time, relating to* Caledonian, *it was cruſh'd and laid on my Back, as the malicious Author of it. I thank God I am the Subject of a Nation, where I breath free Air, and may ſay, that I have been ill us'd by that Company, and am not under the petty Tyranny of ſome Gentlemen, where I muſt not mutter a Groan, altho' my Oppreſſion were greater, but in a Country where it is no Crime to detect the Errors of as great Societies, and Perſons when they act amiſs.*

The Third and Laſt Strain of that Defence, hints at the Impracticability of the Darien *Project, ſhowing the little Encouragement the Company has to proſecute a Title to a Colony there, and the ſmall Advantages they can reap by it, either to themſelves or Nation, tho' they were firmly poſſeſt of it. If the Reſpect I bear to the Welfare of that Nation, and particular Friendſhip I owe to ſeveral Proprietors of the*

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Stock, had not more Influence on me than my Pique at ſuch Directors of the Company, as were the Occaſion of the Miſmanagement, I ſhould have held my Pen, and wrote nothing on this Part of the Subject; but by reaſon I know what Pains have been taken to lead and retain a great Number of People in this Miſtake, I was reſolv'd to detect it. 'Tis true, I did not inſiſt much on it, thinking it unneceſſary on the Account of their Colonies quitting the Place; but ſince what has been offer'd already on that Head has not any Influence, I ſhall offer ſome few Things more to their Conſideration, by way of Anſwer to the Original Author's Challenge to prove the Spaniſh *Title to* Darien, *either by Inheritance, Marriage, Donation, Purchaſe, Reverſion, Surrender, Poſſeſſion or Conquect. I ſhall offer nothing dogmatically, nor pretend to know all the* Spaniſh *Pretenſions to it, ſo that what I offer on this Head, is,* Salvo jure cujuslibit Hiſpani, *or any other Perſon who will take this Task upon him. If the Gentlemen of the Company will not liſten to Reaſon, let them go on and proſper; they may perhaps find it true, after they have thrown ſome more good Money after bad. I muſt only whiſper the juſt and modeſt Author in the Ear, that thoſe Perſons, whether of the* Engliſh *or* Dutch *Intereſt, who liſten, and make leaſt Oppoſition to the* Darien *Project, are not the beſt Friends to the* Scots African *Company;*

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they perhaps ſee the Event of it, and will but ſmile to ſee the remaining Part of the Stock ſhipt off for Darien.

DEfence of the *Scots* Settlement at *Darien*, Page 4. he begins to diſprove the *Spaniſh* Title to the Province of *Darien*, and tells you; *It is evident, that the* Spaniards *cannot pretend a Title to that Country, by Inheritance, Marriage, or the Donation of Prince and People*, &c.

It being the eaſieſt Part of an Argument to deny, but not to prove a Negative, 'tis to be preſum'd, that what he hath to advance on this Head, is the Authority of the Colonies Journal, which came home laſt *March*: At the ſame time, it is to be believ'd, as a Preliminary, that the Company deſign'd to inveſt the ſame Place of *Darien* before any Perſon of the Colony either ſaw that Country, or could pen the Journal. If the Company depended on *Buccaneer*'s Stories (the Actions and Writings of ſuch being equally regarded by political Bodies) their Foundation was ſandy and lame, and ſuch Evidences will ſcarce be admitted, in this Caſe, in the Courts of any Kingdom or State.

'Tis ſufficiently known to all *Europe*, that the *Spaniard* has been near 200 Years Maſter

ſter of ſo much of the Continent of *America*, as paſſes commonly by the Names of *Mexico* and *Peru*, which are Two Tracts of Land ſeveral Thouſand Miles extent, both on the South and North Seas: Thoſe Two vaſt Countries are join'd by a Neck of Land call'd the *Iſthmus* of *Darien* (which is about 60 or 70 Leagues long, and about 20 broad in the narroweſt Part from Sea to Sea) which Province, he may be ſaid as much to inherit and poſſeſs as any other Portion of Land, of that Extent, in either *Mexico* or *Peru*; or rather more, by Reaſon his moſt important and ſtrongeſt Cities in *America*, are on this very *Iſthmus*, to wit, *New Panama*, *St. Maria*, with ſeveral ſmaller Garriſons on the South-ſide, and *Porto-bello*, *Chagre*, *Nombre de dios*, *Conception*, &c. on the North-ſide; beſides *Carthagena* adjoining to the Eaſt End of the *Iſthmus*. It can't be expected, that the *Spaniard* can have a Fort and Garriſon on every Hill, or in every Creek of his *American* Dominions, nor that he ſhould extirpate the whole Race of the *Indians* in this Province of *Darien*, more than he does in his others. 'Tis evident, that the *Spaniards* are more numerous on this *Iſthmus* and the Parts adjoining, than on four Times ſo much Ground, in either *Mexico* or *Peru*, and where never hitherto diſturbed

bed or interrupted in their Poſſeſſion of it, but by Pyrates, Buccaneers and Privateers, except in the Time of a declar'd War, when their Towns in *Flanders* and old *Spain* were equally lyable to Attacks.

This *Iſthmus* is of that Importance to the *Spaniards*, that it will not admit of a Doubt amongſt reaſonable and unintereſſed Men, but that they ſhould take as much Pains to be Maſters of it, and retain the ſame, as either *Mexico* or *Peru*, by Reaſon it is the Thorough-fair and Road by which all their Treaſure and Riches from the South Sea are convey'd over to their Galleons and Flota's, on the North Sea, and ſo to *Europe*. 'Tis very odd, that this Gentleman ſhould allow the *Spaniards* to cut off 40 Millions of *Indians* in the Reign of *Charles* the 5th to make Way for their Colonies, and to neglect this Neck of Land which joins them, and which is the *Terminus* and Receptacle of the Whole, and without which moſt of their Collonies on the South Sea are not worth Six-pence to *Old Spain*. A Man's Reaſon will give him that it was as eaſie, and of more Importance to clear the Province of *Darien* of 40 Hundred *Indians*, as the other Parts of *America* of 40 Millions; and if they could ſweep off ſo many at firſt Entrance into that Country, it may be reaſonably allow'd that they

they have had time enough to clear this Province of ſuch a ſmall Number of Enemies. The Suppoſition of the *Spaniards* neglecting this *Iſthmus* of *Darien*, is as improbable and ridiculous, as if the incorporated Inhabitants of *London* ſhould have made themſelves Maſters of the City and Borough of *Southwark*, and have neglected to ſubject the Bridge to their Dominion or Charter: Nay, the Simile in Proportion is of more Weight and Importance on the *Spaniſh* ſide, than this is on the City's, altho' there was no other way of communicating with the other ſide of the *Thames*, than this of the Bridge.

'Tis evident, that thoſe *Spaniſh* Cities and Forts are ſcatter'd over the *Iſthmus*, being on the middle, and at both ends of it, and that they have an interrupted Communication with one another. If the *Darien Indians* were not in Subjection, or if they were in War with the *Spaniards* (as this Gentleman would make us believe) why might they not with the Half of thoſe 50000 Men (which *pag.* 5. he has pick'd out of *Ringroſe* the Buccanier's Dream) intercept the *Spaniſh* Treaſure, and carry it to the *Scotch* Collony, if they were not able to beat them out of their Forts? 'Tis very well known, that the *Spaniards* are ſo very ſecure on that *Iſthmus*, that they

tranſport

transport their Treasure over Land from *Panama* to *Porto-bello* by common Carriers, and when any of their Asses or Mules set up on the Road, they are so little apprehensive of the *Indians*, that they leave their Loads of Silver where they fall, till such time as they or some others return that way again.

He tells us, *p.* 9. that the *Spanish* Dominions are limited at both Ends of the *Isthmus*, exclusive by a blind Story of the Rivers *Chepo* and *Congo*, and asserts, that *Nombre de dios* is the *Spanish* Boundary, at one end of the *Isthmus*, on the North-side, and that *Panama* and St. *Maria* are the Eastern and Western Bounds on the South-side (by which he would take off between 30 and 40 Leagues from the Length of the * *Isthmus*) if he will re-examine the Map, he will find that not only *Nombre de dios*, but likewise *Porto-bello*, *Chagre* and *Conception*, are much about the middle of the *Isthmus* on the North-side, and that *New Panama* on the South-side is in the Cod of the

* The Author of the just and modest Vind. p. 48. makes the Length of his *Isthmus* but 17 Leagues; for he says, that the *Scotch* Fort and Harbour lies between 8 or 9 Leagues from the River, or Gulph of *Darien* on one side, and *Conception* River on the other.

He tells you likewise in the same Page, that Boats can pass on either of these Rivers to the South Sea, which is as true and possible as to go by Water up to the Top of the Monument.

Bay, and oppoſite to *Porto-bello*; as likewiſe that *Old Panama* and St. *Maria* on the ſame ſide, are further to the Eaſt-ward, and right oppoſite to Fort St. *Andrew*, in *Caledonia*.

Travellers ought to be gifted with a good Memory, for altho' he will not allow the *Spaniard* to be intitled to an Inch of Ground on his *Iſthmus*, yet he forgets himſelf and betrays his Cauſe, for *p.* 76. he owns that a Party of Ten *Spaniards* lived on *Golden* * *Iſland* (which is within 5 Miles of Fort St. *Andrew*, and looks into the *Caledonian* Harbour) till they were cut off by Capt. *Ambroſio*. He tells you, indeed, that it was done by Conſent, and Combination of the *Darien* Princes, who had only given them a Toleration to live there, and were their Tenants *durante bene placito*; but there's no more Authority for this Aſſertion, than that *Ariſtotle*'s *Dixit*.

* By miſtake call'd the Iſle of *Pines*, in the Def. of the *Scots* Abdicat.

The Ground where this Fact was committed, was in the Diſtricht of Capt. *Andrews*, who own'd himſelf to be a *Spaniſh* Captain, and which our Author indirectly confeſſeth, *pag.* 75. as likewiſe, that this Murder was committed but Two Months before the *Scotch* Collony ſettled there. The Collonies Journal acknowledgeth, that Capt.

Capt. * *Andrews* and Capt. * *Ambroſio* were Enemies on the Score, that the former would not break with the *Spaniard*, whereas if this Story of our *Caledonian* Author be true, of that Murders being committed by Conſent, and Combination of the *Darien* Princes, it ſhould be taken for granted, that Capt. *Andrews* was as much an Enemy to *Spain* as *Ambroſio*, or rather more, becauſe the Murder was committed in his Ground.

**Dignify'd by our laſt Author with the myſterious Names of *Caiques*, to ſmoother that of Captain, and imply as much Majeſty as in that of *Zaar*.

But it is more liable to belief, that thoſe Ten *Spaniards* who were poſted on *Golden Iſland* (which is not above a Quarter of a Mile from the main Land) could think themſelves in no greater Danger than ſo many *Engliſh* in ſome Mountanous part of *Ireland*, where a Rapparee Party could with the ſame Eaſe cut their Throats. Our Author acknowledgeth, that they were poſted there for a Look-out, to give Notice of any Veſſels that appear'd on that Coaſt; and it may be the eaſier credited, that the *Spaniards* employ'd that Iſland or Promontory for that Uſe, by reaſon the Author of, *The Juſt and Modeſt Vindicat.* of the *Darien* Settlement, innocently tells you, that the *Spaniards* call that Iſland by the Name of *Guarda*, (in his 48*th Page*) which of it ſelf

implies the Uſe which the *Spaniards* (not newly, but of a long Date) have made of it.

After all, I muſt tell, that Capt. *Andrews* had no Hand in this Murder, but *Ambroſio*, who came with his Gang from his Habitation (which is above 40 Miles diſtant) and treacherouſly ſurpriz'd them. Neither is it to be imagin'd, that the *Spaniards* (who are very Wary and Politick) can be thought to be guilty of ſuch Weakneſs, as to expoſe ſo ſmall a Party amongſt *Indians*, their Native Enemies, but rather that they thought that Party ſecure enough in a Country which was under their Obedience.

So much I have offer'd to demonſtrate the *Spaniſh* Inheritance: As for their Title by Marriage, 'tis evident enough, that the King of *Spain* has more Subjects born of *Indian* (beſides Mooriſh) Mothers in *America*, than he has of *Spaniſh* in *Europe*: Nay, if it were not for the Liberty which is given the *Spaniards* to marry with the *Indians* and *Moors*, it were impoſſible they could plant and inhabit that vaſt Continent; and 'tis well enough known, that this Progeny of the *Spaniard* is of moſt uſe in defending thoſe Countries, and retaining them under the Obedience and Subjection of *Spain*.

As for the Donation of Prince or People, I don't pretend to know the *Spaniſh American* Archives and Regiſters, more than our

Author

Author can prove the Contrary. I preſume the *Spaniards* have more to ſhow for their Inveſtiture, than the *Caledonian* Council has brought home with them. Only this I can be poſitive in, that theſe *Dariens* acknowledge, that they have had no Head or Emperor of their own Nation, for above theſe 150 Years, which may be reckon'd to be about the Date of the *Spaniards* Settling there; and if I am not miſtaken, the Colonies Journal (altho' cautiouſly enough calculated) acknowledgeth the ſame.

As for Conqueſt (he ſays in the ſame Paragraph, Page 4.) *'Tis ridiculous to alledge it, ſince the* Dariens *are in actual Poſſeſſion of their Liberty, and were never ſubdu'd, nor receiv'd any* Spaniſh *Garriſon or Governour amongſt them.* The laſt Author who paraphraſeth on him, aſſerts likewiſe that thoſe Captains are all ſovereign and independent Princes, but coming cloſſer to the Text, tells us, from *Purffendorf* and the Civilians, Page 73. (making the Suppoſition of their being conquer'd:) That *per ſolam Vim injuſtam, non poſſe alicui Jus quæri*, &c. and from Grotius; That *Actus imperii invaſoris quos exercet nullam Vim habere poſſunt ex ipſius Jure, quod nullum eſt.* By both theſe Authorities, this modeſt Author may as Legally claim a Right to all the *Spaniſh* Towns and

and Dominions, as to his *Peninſula*, wherein Fort St. *Andrew* ſtands, if he can but ſet his Foot there, and perſwade the *Indians* to revolt; ſince he ſo plainly ſays, that the *Spaniards* made an unjuſt Invaſion and Conqueſt over the *American* Princes and Kingdoms, which no ways obliges them to pay Fealty, or continue in their Obedience longer than they find it in their Power to free themſelves from the Yoke. He fouls Paper enough in Preaching up this Doctrine, altho' it had been Time enough Seven Years hence, when the *Caledonians* had ſurer Footing on the *Iſthmus*: But altho' thoſe Civilians allow him ſuch Liberty of Conſcience, yet he will find ſome prevailing Arguments in the Treaties between the King of *Great Britain* and *Spain* to curb him, which out-balances his Civilian Authorities. So that we muſt agree to ſuffer the King of *Spain* to be Conqueror and Maſter of thoſe Parts of *America*, eſpecially where he has Cities, Forts, Garriſons and Mines.

But to return to the original Author, who ſays, that it is ridiculous to alledge any ſuch Title to *Darien*, where the Natives are in actual Poſſeſſion of their Liberty. He is either Brazen-fac'd, elſe he has forgot that St. *Maria*, *Tubaconti*, Old and New *Panama*, *Nombre de dios*, *Portobello*,

bello, *Conception*, &c. are ſcatter'd over that very *Iſthmus*, if I ſhould ſay nothing of *Guarda* or *Golden Iſland* it ſelf, where thoſe *Spaniards* reſided. 'Tis well enough known, the *Spaniards* have Mines in ſeveral Parts of that *Iſthmus*, and ſome not above 12 Leagues from the Collony, without any Guard, ſave the Overſeers and other Neceſſary Aſſiſtants to keep the *Negro*'s to Work.

I can't underſtand how thoſe *Dariens* can be ſaid to enjoy their Liberty, where there are ſo many Cities, Forts and Garriſons to curb them. 'Tis very unaccountable, that his Warlike Prince, called *Ambroſio*, ſhould live ſo occultly, as not to have a Path to his Royal Pallace, but that from the Capital Port of his Kingdom a Man muſt wade Eleven Times through the ſame River, up to the Middle, and bruſh through Thickets, whoſe Twigs have not been cut nor prun'd ſince the Creation, before he can come to his Wigwam City, altho' it is not above an Hour's Journey, if the Road were beat and even. *Ambroſio* and *Diego* have indeed piſs'd in the Pumpdale, and both live obſcurely with, may be, 30 or 40 in their ſeveral Gangs, whom a Dozen of Men with Fire Arms would ſoon reduce, if it were poſſible to ferret them out.

As

As for *Wafer* and *Dampier* whom our Author adduces, *Page* 4. for his Evidences, neither of theſe pretend to know *Diego* or *Ambroſio*, *Dampier* having only croſs'd the *Iſthmus*, and *Wafer* ſtaid not above Three Months there, with his *Lacenta*, with whom after he had ſojourn'd till his Leg was well, croſs'd the Country, and took Water at *La-Sounds* Key, which lies amongſt the *Samballa*'s, and about 20 Leagues to the North-Weſt of the *Caledonian* Collony: And if *Wafer* ſays, that the *Spaniards* have no Command over the *Indians* on the North-ſide of the *Iſthmus*, a little beyond *Porto-bello*, I have no occaſion to diſprove him, ſince he does not deny, that the *Spaniards* Command on the South-ſide, and likewiſe on this ſide of *Porto-bello*, where *New Caledonia* lies. See *p.* 4. *Of the Def. of the* Scots *Settlement*. Our Author either ſums up his Evidence wrong, elſe he truſts to the ſlight Enquiry of his Readers.

In the Two next Paragraphs he cites the ſame Evidences, and tells you a Tale of a Cock and a Bull, how *Batt. Sharp* in the Year, 1680, landed at *Golden Iſland*, Chriſten'd one of thoſe *Indian* Captains, *Emperor*, and his Eldeſt Son, *King Golden Cape*, and having join'd thoſe *Darien* Princes (of their own Creation) took St. *Maria*, attempted *Panama*, and made Prize of ſeveral

ral *Spaniſh* Ships on the South Sea, and how afterwards when he came to be try'd for thoſe Pyracies in *England*, the * Emperor of *Darien*'s Commiſſion clear'd him.

* The Author of, *The juſt and modeſt Vindicat.* as good as gives *Wafer* the Lye here; for *p.* 90. he ſays, the *Darien* Captains always rul'd within themſelves, and never had any other *Indian* Sovereign.

'Tis evident by the Conceſſion of the *Indians* themſelves, and by the Collonies Journal, that there has been no *Indian* Monarch or Emperor in that Country for an Age or two by paſt; in the next place, if *Batt*'s Jury had any great Inclination to hang him, they might have enquir'd further into the Emperor, or his Secretary who wrote the Commiſſion: I dare ſay, that an *Engliſh* Pen both worded and ſign'd it; for in my Travels in that Country, I could meet with neither Prince nor Clergyman that knew a Letter of the Book. I want to know who Commanded as *Generalliſſimo* at the Taking of St. *Maria*, and the *Spaniſh* Prizes at Sea, and when thoſe Princes ſerv'd on board, who was Captain, and who Cook? It ſeems the *Darien* Empire was very low at the Landing of Capt. *Sharp*, when he and his 330 Men could give ſuch Life, and do ſuch Feats againſt the *Spaniards* on that *Iſthmus*, when *Baſil Ringroſe*, one of the ſame Crew, his *Darien* King could do ſo little

with his 50000 Men, to revenge the Rape of his Royal Daughter. 'Tis pity the Jury did not oblige Mr. *Sharp* to produce his Diſcharge, or Certificate from that Emperor: *But let the Pitcher go ne'er ſo oft to the Well, it will be ſure to come home crack'd ſome time or other*; ſo this poor Sojour or Sailor of Fortune has not the ſame Luck every where, for none of thoſe Commiſſions would ſerve his turn about 16 Months ago at the Iſland of St. *Thomas*, where he was doom'd to die in a Halter for one of the like Enterprizes, and had nothing elſe to truſt to than the K. of *Denmark*'s Mercy.

Our Author to confirm all, ſays in the ſame Paragraph, *Page* 5. This is the more remarkable, becauſe thoſe very Princes or their Succeſſors are now in League with the *Scots*, and have joyfully receiv'd them into their Country. I anſwer to this, I refer my ſelf to the 58 and 59 *Pag. Of the Def. of the Scots Abd.* where Captain *Andreas* (whom both of us agree on, to be the ſuppoſed Emperors Succeſſor) tells the tragical Story of their joining thoſe Buccaneers and Privateers, and how they ſuffer'd for the ſame, after theſe had got the *Spaniſh* Plunder (which was their Errand) and left them expos'd to the *Spaniſh* Fury.

As for *Ambroſio* and *Diego*'s Willingneſs to receive the *Scotch* Colony amongſt them,

it

it may be reaſonably believ'd, becauſe thoſe are outlaws and never expect to be pardon'd, the Former for the Murder of thoſe *Spaniards* on *Golden Iſland*, and the other for Attacking Three Prieſts in their Cell or Chappel, and Murdering of them, and Robbing the Alter of it's Furniture; whereof, *Diego*'s Son brought the Sacerdotal Veſtments and Challice to the *Scotch* Colony, and ſold the ſame to Captain *Frazer*, for little or nothing. Thoſe Outlaws will not only be glad of the *Scots*, * but of the *Dutch*, *French*, *Danes*, nay *Jews* or *Turks*, if they thought any of theſe, or all of them could protect and ſhelter them from Juſtice. Nay, they are ſo little able to make any Oppoſition, that I could engage to be one of 20 Men to go over that *Iſthmus* over their Bellies, providing the *Spaniards* would wink at it.

* Witneſs *Diego*'s admitting Cap. *Long* in the *Rupert* Prize to ſettle in his Plantation, in the Gulph of *Darien*, about the ſame time the *Scots* ſettled.

In the next Paragraph, *Pag. 6. Then as to any Claim, by Virtue of Poſſeſſion the* Spaniards *have not the leaſt Ground of a Plea, all they can alledge on this Head is, that they were once admitted by the Conſent of Capt.* Diego, *another of the* Darien *Princes, to work on ſome Gold Mines within* 15 *Leagues of the* Scotch *Settlement; but 'tis plain, that this makes no-*

thing for their Purpoſe, that Prince admitting them not as Proprietors, but as Labourers, and when they broke the Conditions on which they were admitted, viz. *To allow the* Dariens *ſuch and ſuch Shares of the Product they were expell'd again by Force,* &c.

Our Author having compos'd a handſom Story of *Diego* (whoſe Kingdom is the 3d from the Collony) ſhuffles in Mr. *Wafer* for Evidence, whereas he owns himſelf, that he never ſaw ſuch a Man as Capt. *Diego*; and as for his *Lacenta*, that Prince is ſuch a Stranger to the *Indians* of the *Scots* Acquaintance, that altho' ſome Pains was taken to enquire after him, yet he could not be heard of; but there being 17 or 18 Years between *Wafer*'s and the *Scots* ſojourning in that Country, *Lacenta* in the time might probably be choak'd with ſome of the *Spaniſh* Hemp amongſt the other Princes, whom the Privatiers and Buccaniers deſerted, and left to care of themſelves.

This mighty Story of *Diego* is ſo ill coyn'd, that it would make a Man ſick to trace it. He owns thoſe *Spaniſh* Mines to be within 15 Leagues of the Collony (I ſay 12) and *Diego* is the Third Captain, or *Zaar*, from the Collony towards St. *Maria* (as appears, *p.* 79 and 80) *Andreas* the Companies Landlord being the Firſt, *Pouſſigo* the Clergy-man (as our Author dignifies him) the Second; whereby it may be eaſily conceiv'd what a powerful and large Government *Diego* can have to hire the *Spaniards* as Labourers; and after theſe *Spaniards* had ſpent ſome Years in opening thoſe Mines, and bringing them to Perfection, they ſhould be expell'd when King *Diego* took Snuff. This Strength of *Diego* is ſo very incoherent with the late Action which happen'd in *January* laſt, when 26 *Spaniards* being order'd from

St.

St. *Maria* to march over the *Iſthmus* in order to view the *Scots*, came through *Diego*'s Ground, where, if the *Indians* had been their open Enemies, ſo ſmall a Party would ſcarce have ventur'd; yet *Diego*'s Men were ſo unable to oppoſe them, that they took upon them to pilot them to a convenient Place, where they might view the *Scots*, and in the mean time ſome of *Diego*'s Men came to the Government of *Pedro* (the Defunct *Andreas* his Succeſſor) and ſo to the Collony with the News; on which Mr. *Montgomry*, with a Detachment of a 100 Men, were piloted by them to the Spot where the *Spaniards* lay.

In this very Action Four Things are remarkable, 1. The Weakneſs of *Diego*'s and *Pedro*'s Forces, who were not able to cut off the Heads of ſuch a Handful, but that they muſt come to the Collony for Aſſiſtance. 2. The Confidence which the *Spaniards* put in the *Indians* of *Diego* and *Pedro*. 3. The *Scotch* Party leaving their Collony, and going with the *Indians*, with a Deſign to attack thoſe 26 *Spaniards*, who were lying ſome Leagues off on the Bank of a ſmall River, and who finding themſelves betray'd by thoſe *Indians*, fir'd upon them, and ſo retreated to their next Garriſon of *Tubaconti*. 4. That this being the only Fight between the *Scots* and *Spaniards*, the Breach of Peace was founded on it, and Letters of Mark and Repriſal granted by the Collony to *Pilkinton* and *Sands*, Maſters of *Jamaica* Sloops.

The Story of *Diego*'s beating the *Spaniards* from the Gold Mines tells very ackwardly (our Author imputing this Rupture to the *Spaniards* beating and male-treating *Diego*'s People, when they

they came to ask their Shares) but to wave the Improbability of this Story, and admit it for a Truth; 'tis to be presum'd, that when *Diego* fell upon those *Spaniards* and slew them, he did not allow them time to blow up those Mines, or fill them up with Rubbish, that they might not be serviceable to him or his Friends afterwards; and it might have been reasonably expected, that *Diego* should either have made a Present of those Mines to the *Scotch* Collony (for House-warming) or at least have suffer'd them to dig up some of the Gold to buy Provisions, and keep them from starving, that thereby they might have been the more enabled to assist them against the *Spaniards*, and restore them to their Ancient Liberty, besides, leading them a nearer Way to the Kingdom of Heaven, than that which the *Spaniards* cut out for them.

The Gentlemen of the Collony were very modest (as he tells you in the 78 and 79 *pag.*) *When they were inform'd by some* French **Refugees, that with a* 100 *Men they could be Masters of some Gold and Silver Mines belonging to the* Spaniard, *but they were so gifted with the Grace of Self-denyal, that they would not listen to it, till once the* Spaniard *offer'd some Hostility.* We now find that this, which our Author would have to be the Hostile Act, was committed in *January*; but it is to be admir'd that the Collony should only send Sloops out to pilfer a few Fisher-mens Canou's, and Houses at *Teleu*, near *Carthagena*, and not have spar'd the foresaid 100 Men to reduce the *Spanish* Mines to their Subjection; or if they were

* A pretty safe Name for two noted *French* Pyrates, and a *Molletto*, all Natives of *Martineco*, who were oblig'd to live among the *Indians*, by reason they were liable to be hang'd on any Christian Ground, whereon they could be caught.

were afraid to offend the *Span.* by Land, they had not ſent a few of their num. to their Frd. and Ally *Diego*'s Gold Mines, where there was no Danger to be apprehended of the *Spaniards* looking that Prince in the Face; and not have laid in Fort St. *Andrew* making Childrens Shooes (after the War was thus begun (from *January* to *June*, and at laſt be forc'd to quit the glorious Project for want of Proviſions, when at the ſame time they were tantaliz'd with Veſſels loaded with good Food on one ſide of them, and Mines full of Gold on the other for want of Grace to attack them. I wiſh our Author would reviſe thoſe Paragraphs in the 5*th* and 6*th Pages*, as alſo in the 78 and 79*th*, and ſee if the Stories are of a piece, or if they will hold water.

I am rather inclin'd to believe that the *Spaniard* is more Maſter than Servant amongſt the *Indians*, and likewiſe, that he does not eaſily part with any Place he once gets into his Poſſeſſion, eſpecially Gold Mines: 'Tis very rare to hear of the *Spaniard*'s being beaten off by the *Indians*, and it's more improbable on this ſmall Tract of Ground, call'd the *Iſthmus* of *Darien*, where his Cities, Forts, Garriſons and Mines are ſo cloſely planted, and where if he wanted any Aſſiſtance, he can ſooner have Supplies brought thither, than to any other Part of *New Spain*.

When the Buccaniers and Privatiers were at the ſtrongeſt (muſtering about 1300) and ſurpriz'd St. *Maria*, and ſome other Places on the South Sea, neither they nor the *Indians* durſt venture too keep them above a Week or Ten Days, being jealous of the *Spaniards* rallying with new Umbro's, and attacking them again; but having robb'd and deſtroy'd what they could,

ſculk'd

ſculk'd away to ſome new Place (may be 1 or 200 Leagues diſtant) and always left the *Indians* of of the laſt Place, if any join'd them, to capitulate for themſelves. If they fought under thoſe *Indian* Princes to recover their Country for them, it might reaſonably be expected, that they ſhould left them poſſeſt of ſuch Places as they recover'd out of the *Spaniards* Hands, but there's nothing like this in all the Buccaniers Chronicl.

To be ſhort, if you'l take my Word, I'll tell you, that this Story of *Diego*'s beating the *Spaniards* from their Mines is ſo far a Miſtake, that the *Spaniards* were at work on them when the *Scots* landed there, having only an Intendant, with 50 *Spaniards* to overſee 500 *Negro*'s, who wrought them; neither did they deſert thoſe Mines notwithſtanding the Neighbourhood of the *Scots*, tho' perhaps they might reinforce their Guards. And notwithſtanding Mr. *Montgomrie* was ſo near them with that ſelect Party of 100 Men, and and thoſe Three *Indian* Princes to ſtand by him, yet he did not think it expedient to diſturb them, but ſatisfy'd himſelf with *Redpith*'s famous Captain, *Don Domingo de la rada*. As for the Teſtimony which our Author would draw *Waſer* in for here; he neither knows any thing of *Diego*, nor of thoſe Prieſts, theſe being murder'd many Years after his leaving that Country.

Our Author proceeds thus to the *7th Page*, where he tells us, that the aforeſaid pretended Titles being fully confuted, the *Spaniards* can lay no Claim to *Darien*, but what they plead from the Pope's general Grant of *America*, &c. *How ridiculous it is to urge the Pope's Grant amongſt Proteſtants, and how precarious it is amongſt Papiſts themſelves, but admitting it to be enough to juſtifie their*

their Title, it is eaſie to prove that the Spaniards *have forfeited all the Right they can claim by Virtue of that Grant.*

His Buccanier Evidences are laid aſide for ſome time, there being no room for them here, wherefore he tells us ſuch another Tale in a Tub of the Biſhop of *Chiapa*, who it ſeems, was Teſty with his Sovereign Lord the King of *Spain*, becauſe that Prince did not anſwer the End of the Pope's Grant, but minded more the Treaſure than Souls of the *Americans*, and rail'd at him for not Reſtoring to the Executors of thoſe dead *Indians*, whatever he or his Inſtruments had taken from them, and pleads Queen *Iſſobella*'s Requeſt for the ſame, when ſhe was on her Death-bed, *&c.*

That I mayn't waſte too much Paper in anſwering thoſe Three or Four Paragraphs, take this in ſhort, that the Biſhop of *Chiapa* had not the ſame Senſe of Money in his Age, as the Miſſioners or *Propoganda fide* Gentlemen have in ours, elſe he had made leſs Noiſe. If the General Aſſembly ſhould fraught their Diſciples with never ſo ſtrict Inſtructions, to eſtabliſh the Kirk Diſcipline, yet if *Predicant Paterſon* ſhould form an Anabaptiſt Government there, the Company would ſcarce think their Title to that Country thereby forfeited. Our Author ſomewhere elſe in his Politicks thinks it expedient for the ſpeedier deſtroying of Antichriſt, to ſeize on his Pouch or Purſe: It was reaſonable the *Spaniard* ſhould make uſe of the ſame Maxim, and imitate *Moſes* after his deſcending from the Mount, in taking away the Golden Calf from his Brethren, and ſuch Inſtruments of Idolatry.

But if the *Spaniard* has been guilty of all our Author lays to his Charge, and hath not anſwer'd the End of the Pope's Donation, pray

whether is the Pope or the *Scotch* Company judge of it? If the Pope thinks fit to revoke the *Spaniſh* Charter, 'tis time enough then for the Company to take the Charge of the *American* Souls upon them; but as he has done nothing like this as yet, but on the contrary has granted a large Subſidy on the *American* Church to ſupport it, the Company may appear officious in meddling with his Holineſs's Buſineſs, and give the World too much reaſon to believe that their Deſign is not only to expel the *Spaniard* out of *Darien*, but likewiſe out of *Mexico* and *Peru*, under this Religious Pretext. I want to know whether *Paterſon*'s and the Companies Project was to take the Cure of the *American* Souls, or Treaſure upon them? If the former, then 1048 Levites and two Soldiers, had been fitter Miſſioners to *Darien*, than two Preachers and 1048 ſuch Lay Elders; and inſtead of 2 or 3000 Buchaniers Pieces, Piſtols, Daggers, and Drums proportionable; they ought to have follow'd the Inſtructions annex'd to the Original Commiſſion of, *ite & prædicate*, and gone without *Staff* or *Scrip*.

Altho our *Author* by the ſtrain of his Pen, ſhews that he has been a conſiderable time from Home, yet he betrays ſomething now and then, to confirm us, that good ſtore of the Kirk Milk lurks ſtill in the receſſes of his Noſe; for he is not ſatisfy'd with beating the *Spaniards* out of **America* with his Religious Cant, but muſt ſtick to the good Old Way of Murdering his Adverſaries Reputation, that by once rendring him Odious, he may muſter the whole Kennel of Curs to bark him out of Town. In the 7th, 8th, and 9th Pages, he Whines in the ſame Strain as the Hy-

* The juſt and modeſt Author of the *Vindicat.* pag. 84, and 85, admits the *Spaniards* Title to be valid to his *American* Poſſeſſions. But in other Places where he is Angry, he cuts them off again with a ſtrook of the ſabe Pen.

Hypocrites in the Gospel did, when they had a devouring Design on Widows Houses.

But to return to the Subject in Debate, since our *Author* after all his Railing, is such a Hero as to admit the Pope's Donation to be so valid as to give the *Spaniard* some Claim to *America*, I'll be quits with him in Civility, and pass from the Pope's Donation altogether, and stick to the *Spanish* Possession; which they have had not only of *Mexico* and *Peru* in General, but of the Province of *Darien* in Particular, by Prescription of a great many Years; where their several Towns, Forts, Garisons and Mines, are sufficient Evidences of it; and besides these Legal Infestments, can bring 50 of those *Darien* Indians under their Banner, to one that will appear against them, to justifie their Right of Dominion. All this being duly consider'd, I can't see where the Audacious Affront lyes that's offer'd to His *Britanick* Majesty, by the *Catholick* King, who only asserts his Right, and says, That some *Scots* in the time of Peace, without any Injury Offer'd, have Invaded the Heart of his *Spanish* Dominions: 'Tis very unaccountable, that this Cholerick Gentleman should take his *Catholick* Majesty by the Nose, for saying, That the Church stands in the Church-yard.

So much then for the *Spanish* Title to *Darien*, by Inheritance, Marriage, Donation, Possession and Conquest; as for the Purchase and Surrender, I was not Witness to those Transactions; but Reason will allow these to follow in Course, if the others be good. As for Reversion, I can't well comprehend our *Author*'s Meaning; for it cannot be said, That the *Spaniard* has either Quitted, or Mortgag'd that Province to the *Indians*, since he remains still on the Spot, and in Possession of it, and in all appearance is like to do after we are Dead.

If what I have offer'd in Answer to this Author's Challenge, will serve to demonstrate the *Spaniard*'s Right to that *Isthmus*; there will be no more occasion for *Puffendorf* nor *Hugo Grotius*; so that the only Standard we are left to walk by, is the Treaties of Peace between *Spain* and *England*, which both these Authors, the Defender and Vindicator of the *Darien* Settlement, can neither wrest nor squeeze any thing from to serve their Turn: After they have said all they can think of on that Head, they tell you, '*That all that can be in-'ferr'd from those *Treaties*, is, that 'they are a Mutual Security for 'the peaceable Possession of what each Crown 'Possest, and no more. The *Spaniards* desire no more benefit of these Treaties, than what those Authors herein allow them. 'Tis evident enough, That by those *Treaties*, His Majesty got considerably from the *Spaniard*, to wit, Not only a Title to the Island of *Jamaica*, which was taken from the *Spaniard* during the *Exile* of *Charles* II. but likewise a full Right to all the Colonies in *America*, his Subjects were then possest of. And if those *Treaties* were no Fence to the *Spaniard* in *America*, I don't know what should oblige him to make such large Gifts, and renounce his Title to Places which some time or other he might be in a condition to Recover. If the Subjects of *Great Britain*, may when they please, Seat themselves on *Darien*, or elsewhere on the *Spanish* Coast, then the *Spaniard* has no Benefit by those *Treaties*: But I am rather apt to believe, (as our Author has hit it) *That they were made for a Mutual Security of what each Crown possest*, and no more.

* Def. of the Scots Settlement pag. 11.

What our *Authors* would squeeze from those *Treaties*, is, *That neither Party is excluded from enlarging*

arging his Dominions in America *upon Wastes, or by consent of the Natives in such Places, as have never yet been possest by* Spain, *or* Great Britain. *Def. of the Scots Settlement pag. 11.*

Altho there's nothing expreſt ſo in thoſe *Treaties*, and if I ſhould yield them this Gloſs they ſet on them, yet I can't ſee how the *Caledonian* Settlement can take any place here, becauſe Dominion can't properly be enlarg'd before there be a Footing; and when thoſe *Treaties* were concluded, there was no word of a *Caledonian* Colony.

The *Caribdee* Iſlands cannot well be enlarg'd, but if the *Engliſh* or *French* have not Room enough on them, they may remove to ſuch Neighbouring Ones as are not the Property of another Prince in Alliance with their Sovereigns. As for the *Engliſh* and *French* Colonies on the main Land, they may enlarge their Dominions far enough round them, if they will, and the *Spaniard* never quarrel with them, ſo long as they don't come within the Tropicks, and meddle with his *Noli me tangere*.

As for Dr. *Cox* and the *Creolians*, who ſettl'd and remov'd in the Bay of *Campechy*, they were in the Right, in Forming ſuch Flying-Camps, for when any of them were caught by the *Spaniard*, they pay'd for it, and had their Mends in their own Hands: And the Author of the *juſt and modeſt Vindic.* p. 168, is as good as ſatiſfy'd as to that Part of it, altho' he does not approve of the Judgment of his Majeſty, the Lords Juſtices, and the *Engliſh* Council, who being addreſs'd by ſome *Engliſh* Marchants for a Patent to ſettle on the ſame *Iſthmus* of *Darien*, ſome Time before the *Scotch* Company had got the Project, refus'd it on the Score of its being contrary to the Treaties of Peace. He would inſinuate, that the King, *&c.* refus'd it for other Reaſons:

But

But if our Author will look back and enquire a little further, he will find, that Sr. *Tho. Muddiford*, Governor of *Jamaica* propos'd the same in the Reign of *Charles* the 2d. and it being canvass'd at Court, and the Legality of it examined, it was refus'd on no other State-Reasons than its being contrary to the Treaties between their Britannick and Catholick Majesties; but our Author being dexterous, never wants a Hole to creep out at, by Insinuating, that his Majesty's and the Lords Justices refusing the *English* Subjects that Patent, was not on the Account of its Injustice, but upon Motives of State, which is as much to say, that it was not Time to disoblige his Catholick Majesty.

As for their Instances of the independent Sovereignties in *Europe* and *Affrica*, which are inclos'd with other Princes Dominions, the Cases are no ways parallel, so long as the *Spaniards* are Masters of all the fortify'd Places and Towns on the *Isthmus*, and the *Indians* scarce of a Wigwam they can call their own. *And as for the King of* Darien's *inviting the Buccaniers to assist him to retake his Country.* Altho' the King were not Fictitious yet by this innocent Story our Author concedes, that he had lost his Country to the *Spaniards*, when he wanted Assistance to recover it out of their Hands: At this Rate the *Scotch* Company may not only elbow the *Spaniards* out of *Darien*, but likewise out of *Mexico* and *Peru*, since in the same *Page* he means as much by declaring the *Indians* the natural Lords of *Darien*, and the *Spaniards* only Tyrannical Usurpers. But to dive a little further into the Probability of this Story, I want to know where that People, call'd Buccaniers liv'd, whom the King of *Darien* invited to his Assistance, or when they joyn'd him

* *Def. of the* Scots *Settlement*, p. 13.

him and recover'd some of those *Spanish* Towns, they did not leave him in Possession of them? 'Tis more reasonable to believe, that that Kind of Vermin which feeds on the *Spanish* Spoil, went to the *Isthmus* on the Account of its Communication with the South Sea, and the Passage by which the *Spanish* Riches are transported to the Galleons on the North Side, and perswaded those poor *Indians* to revolt, and pilot them to such Places where they thought to get Booty, which is the more probable, by reason these *Indians* paid dear for it always when the Buccaniers deserted them.

As for Capt. *Saukins* his sending a Letter to the Governor of *Panama*, wherein he justify'd his Proceedings, and asserted this imaginary King of *Darien* to be natural Lord of *Panama*; I know that old Buccaneer so very well, that I believe it to be true, if *Saukins* had carry'd the Message himself, he might perhaps have got a suitable Answer.

As in the *Def. of* Scots *Abdicat.* I declin'd Answering the fiery Ejaculations of the first Author, either by offering any Thing against the Legality of the *Ostroy* it self, or the Interest of the *Scots* Nation in applying themselves to Foreign Trade, believing the former to be great and well design'd, for the Advantage and Prosperity of the Country in general, and that the latter is so just, that I yield both the Theme and Doctrine of the just and modest Vindicator to be good so far as it relates thereto; so I still shun medling with any Passages, either in the First or Second Author that relates to the separate Interest of the Two Nations, but stick close to the *Darien* Title which is the main Subject in Debate, and as the Original Author cites *Pag.* 3. from Dr. *Saffold* — *Sublata causâ tollitur Effectus*, if the *Spanish* Title to that *Isthmus* be found to be good; *Then the Cause of the Complaint ceases; and the Company ought to apply themselves to that which will turn to Account, and not run on Measures to imbroil not only the Isle of* Great Britain, *but perhaps all* Europe *in a new War.* If the thinking Part of Mankind will but reflect on the Steps that have been made to *Darien*, to wit, in sending their Ships and Men to so foreign a Country which was so lyable to be disputed, and that with Six Months Provisions, 2. The Companies Neglect in Supplying them with more. And *Lastly*, The Dispersing such Declarations clandestinly over the *West-India* Islands and Plantations (which of Necessity must meet with Opposition) to invite People thence to settle on *Darien*; they will find that there have been some private Wheels in this Machin that have brought it to the State wherein it now is, to say no more on't.

POST-

POSTSCRIPT.

IF I have treated the last [illegible] Civility than he merits, [illegible] finish'd and in the Press before [illegible] the just and modest Man, till now his [illegible] several Booksellers Handsubliges him to [illegible] bout *Gratis*, as the other Quack-bills, and so [illegible] Opportunity of being fully confirm'd in the [illegible] Employment and Morals are so notorious already, [illegible] thing I should say of him would add but little to his Infamy, and would be so much lost on him. Wherefore, in reply to those Scurrilities he falsly asperses me with, I shall only put him in mind, that his Pot had not boil'd so well, if he had not been better paid for his Shuffling, Plotting and Tricking, than I have for what I have justly offer'd in Vindication of His Majesty's Proceedings, and to unblind a great Number of well-meaning Persons, who are industriously led into this Mistake, by some particular Gentlemen behind the Curtain, who possess them with a Notion, that the Mismanagement and Miscarriage of their Affairs was not occasion'd by the Directors of that Company, but by the Government of the *English* Nation: And how far this will appear to be true, when it comes to be either calmly or warmly canvas'd, Time will discover: The greatest Prospect that I have of any Reward at present is the Dagger and Pistols, wherewith I am daily threaten'd, and nightly waylaid; against which Dr. *Ferguson* in all his Machinations was always sure to fence himself. Trade being very dead of late, he is resolv'd to play at small Game rather than stand out; but altho' the conceited Politician shades himself under the Skreen of *Patria sua*, to calumniate the Government of that *Hospitium*, whose Bread he hath so long eat, and wherewith hath been so pamper'd; it is neither out of Friendship to the Company, Nation, or Kirk, (the last of which he plainly enough demonstrates, *p.* 205, & 206.) but to have the Coal of Sedition, set *Great Britain* in a Flame, and bring his own Marks to bear; which may be the easier [illegible] by minding of what Sect and Kindney those Gentlemen are, who espouse the *Darien* Interest with the most Heat. To stab the *Knave* in *Newgate*, were but to incourage the old Sinner in his Trade, and put him in a Way to get Money; whereas giving him his *Mittimus*, and sending him home to his own Country, to drive the Trade there, and giving him leave freely to make what he can of this Text, would be the most mortifying and suitable Punishment that could be inflicted on him.

FINIS.